

LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION

BOARD MEETING

Monday, January 24, 1983

and

Tuesday, January 25, 1983

JAMES FARRELLY
CHAIRMAN

Baton Rouge, Louisiana

LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION

January 25, 1983

AGENDA

	<u>Page No.</u>
1. Roll call.	1
2. Invocation.	1
3. Approval of minutes of June 20, 1982.	1
4. Approval of minutes of August 23, 1982.	1
5. Request for renewal of permit from Atlas Const. Co., Inc. to remove fill material from the Mississippi River, left descending bank, mile 148.5 A.H.P. in the vicinity of Pauline, St. James Parish, La.	2
6. Request for renewal of permit from Atlas Const. Co., Inc. to remove fill material from the Mississippi River left descending bank, mile 134.3 to 135.0 A.H.P. in the vicinity of LaPlace, St. John the Baptist Parish, Louisiana.	2
7. Request for renewal of permit from Atlas Const. Co., Inc. to remove fill material from the Mississippi River, right descending bank mile 46.4 A.H.P. in the vicinity of Diamond, Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana.	2
8. Request for renewal of permit from Atlas Const. Co., Inc. to remove fill material from the Mississippi River, right descending bank, mile 18.0 A.H.P. in the vicinity of Fort Jackson, Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana.	3
9. Request for renewal of permit from Atlas Const. Co., Inc. to remove fill material from the Mississippi River, right descending bank, mile 50.0 A.H.P. in the vicinity of Woodland, Plaquemines Parish, La.	3
10. Notice of Intent to set shrimp season.	3
11. Set dates for brown shrimp season hearing.	4
12. Adopt resolution proclaiming National Wildlife Week.	4

AGENDA CONTINUED

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|-----|---|----|
| 13. | Set dates and locations for public hearings. | 5 |
| 14. | Set date and location for March Board Meeting. | 5 |
| 15. | Discuss extension of trapping season. | 5 |
| 16. | Consider closure of Section 16, School Board Section,
on Rockefeller Refuge in Vermilion Parish. | 7 |
| 17. | Amendment of by-laws regarding quorum. | 7 |
| 18. | Resolution of appreciation to J. C. Gilbert. | 8 |
| 19. | Resolution of appreciation to Jesse Knowles. | 9 |
| 20. | Report on 1982 waterfowl season flyway agreement. | 10 |
| 21. | Resolution regarding McNeese State Univeristy. | 10 |
| 22. | Wildlife & Fisheries General Committee assigned to
study license fee structure. | 11 |
| 23. | Recommendation concerning hunting pamphlet. | 12 |
| 24. | Adjourned. | 12 |

MINUTES OF MEETING OF
LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION

BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA

January 24, 1983

and

January 25, 1983

Chairman James Farrelly, presiding

Members present:

Dr. Jack Cappel
Mr. Gary Chouest
Mr. Wayne Ducote
Mr. George Gray
Mr. Jesse Knowles
Mr. Charles Riggs

Secretary Jesse J. Guidry was absent.

* * * *

The regular monthly meeting of the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission was called to order by the Chairman, Mr. James Farrelly, on Monday January 24, at 2:00 p.m. at the Quail Drive Office of the Department of Wildlife & Fisheries, Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

Motion was made by Mr. Jesse Knowles, seconded by Mr. George Gray, and passed unanimously, that the Commission go into a committee of the whole.

A roll call of members present was taken.

Invocation was offered by Mr. Jesse M. Knowles.

Motion was made by Mr. Charles Riggs, seconded by Mr. Jesse Knowles, and passed unanimously, to approve the minutes of the June 20, 1982 meeting.

Motion was made by Mr. Charles Riggs, seconded by Mr. Jesse Knowles, and passed unanimously, to approve the minutes of the August 23, 1982 meeting.

A motion was made by Mr. Jesse Knowles, seconded by Mr. Wayne Ducote, and passed unanimously, that Atlas Construction Co., Inc. be granted a renewal of permit to remove fill material from the Mississippi River, left descending bank, Mile 148.5 A.H.P. in the vicinity of Paulina, St. James Parish, Louisiana.

(The full text of the resolution is here made a part of the record)

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission does hereby grant permission to Atlas Construction Co., Inc. to remove fill material from the Mississippi River, left descending bank, Mile 148.5 A.H.P. in the vicinity of Paulina, St. James Parish, Louisiana, for a period of one year from January 25, 1983 to January 25, 1984 at a royalty rate of 10¢ per cubic yard.

* * * *

A motion was made by Mr. Jesse Knowles, seconded by Mr. Wayne Ducote, and passed unanimously, that Atlas Construction Co., Inc. be granted a renewal of permit to remove fill material from the Mississippi River, left descending bank, Mile 134.3 to 135.0 A.H.P. in the vicinity of LaPlace, St. John the Baptist Parish, Louisiana.

(The full text of the resolution is here made a part of the record)

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission does hereby grant permission to Atlas Construction Co., Inc. to remove fill material from the Mississippi River, left descending bank, Mile 134.3 to 135.0 A.H.P. in the vicinity of LaPlace, St. John the Baptist Parish, Louisiana, for a period of one year from January 25, 1983 to January 25, 1984 at a royalty rate of 10¢ per cubic yard.

* * * *

A motion was made by Mr. Jesse Knowles, seconded by Mr. Wayne Ducote and passed unanimously, that Atlas Construction Co., Inc. be granted a renewal of permit to remove fill material from the Mississippi River, right descending bank, Mile 46.4 A.H.P. in the vicinity of Diamond, Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana.

(The full text of the resolution is here made a part of the record)

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission does hereby grant permission to Atlas Construction Co., Inc. to remove fill material from the Mississippi River, right descending bank, Mile 46.4 A.H.P. in the vicinity of Diamond, Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana, for a period of one year from January 25, 1983 to January 25, 1984 at a royalty rate of 10¢ per cubic yard.

* * * *

A motion was made by Mr. Jesse Knowles, seconded by Mr. Wayne Ducote, and passed unanimously, that Atlas Construction Co., Inc. be granted a renewal of permit to remove fill material from the Mississippi River, right descending bank, Mile 18.0 A.H.P. in the vicinity of Fort Jackson, Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana.

(The full text of the resolution is here made a part of the record)

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission does hereby grant permission to Atlas Construction Co., Inc. to remove fill material from the Mississippi River, right descending bank, Mile 18.0 A.H.P. in the vicinity of Fort Jackson, Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana, for a period of one year from January 25, 1983 to January 25, 1984 at a royalty rate of 10¢ per cubic yard.

* * * *

A motion was made by Mr. Jesse Knowles, seconded by Mr. Wayne Ducote, and passed unanimously, that Atlas Construction Co., Inc. be granted a renewal of permit to remove fill material from the Mississippi River, right descending bank, Mile 50.0 A.H.P. in the vicinity of Woodland, Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission does hereby grant permission to Atlas Construction Co., Inc. to remove fill material from the Mississippi River, right descending bank, Mile 50.0 A.H.P. in the vicinity of Woodland Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana, for a period of one year from January 25, 1983 to January 25, 1984 at a royalty rate of 10¢ per cubic yard.

* * * *

A motion was made by Mr. Jesse Knowles, seconded by Mr. George Gray, and passed unanimously, to set the Spring Shrimp Season between the dates of May 1 and May 25.

(The full text of the resolution is here made a part of the record)

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission is bound by the "Administrative Procedures Act" and procedures of the "Oversite Committee of the Louisiana Legislature" to indicate their intent to promulgate a rule, and

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission is bound by LA RS 56:497 to set the Spring Shrimp Season not later than May 25 and for a certain prescribed length of time depending on technical data made available to it, and

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission also under Section LA56:497 has the authority to set special shrimp seasons for all or parts of the inside waters, and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission proposes to set the Spring Shrimp Season between the dates of May 1 and May 25, after examining the technical data at the April Commission Meeting, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission proposes to set a Special Shrimp Season before the spring season, if technical data provided indicate marketable shrimp are available.

* * * *

A motion was made by Mr. Jesse Knowles, seconded by Mr. George Gray, and passed unanimously, to set the brown shrimp season hearing on April 25 and the Board Meeting on April 26.

The brown shrimp season meeting will be held April 25, at 10:00 a.m. at the Hilton Inn in Kenner, Louisiana and the regular Commission Meeting will be Tuesday, April 26 at 10:00 a.m. at the Hilton Inn.

* * * *

A motion was made by Dr. Jack Cappel, seconded by Wayne Ducote, and passed unanimously, to proclaim National Wildlife Week, March 20 - March 26, 1983.

(The full text of the resolution is here made a part of the record)

WHEREAS, of the nearly two billion acres of public land our federal government has held title to during our nation's history, approximately 740 million acres remain in the public domain; and

WHEREAS, these public lands encompass many of the most scenic and widely-used recreation areas in our nation; and

WHEREAS, a vast wealth of minerals, fossil fuels, timber, and grazing acreage is contained therein; and

WHEREAS, many sections of our public lands provide essential habitat for the many species which comprise our country's rich wildlife heritage; and

WHEREAS, there is an urgent need to help the public understand and appreciate the value of these national lands so that well-balanced plans to manage this important natural resource can be formulated; and

WHEREAS, the period of March 20-26, 1983, has been set aside as a special time for focusing attention on the need to manage wisely and use properly these public lands for present and future generations of people and wildlife; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED THAT I, Jesse J. Guidry, Secretary of the Louisiana Department of Wildlife & Fisheries do hereby join the National Wildlife Federation in proclaiming March 20 - 26, 1983, as National Wildlife Week, urging one and all to unite in support of activities that will encourage the wise use of our public lands and thus strongly affirm that "THIS IS YOUR LAND, Public Lands Belong To All Of Us."

* * * *

A motion was made by Mr. Jesse Knowles, seconded by Mr. Gary Chouest, and passed unanimously, to set dates for the hunting seasons public hearings.

The public hearings have been set as follows:

March 8	Bossier City	7:00 p.m.
March 9	Lafayette	7:00 p.m.
March 28	Kenner	7:00 p.m.

The March Commission meeting will be held in conjunction with the public hearing. The Commission meeting will be March 28 and 29 at the Hilton Inn, Kenner, Louisiana.

* * * *

A motion was made by Mr. Charles Riggs and seconded by Mr. Jesse Knowles, and passed unanimously, to extend the trapping season.

(The full text of the resolution is here made a part of the record)

WHEREAS, due to the exceptional weather conditions which existed throughout the State of Louisiana during the months of December, 1982 and January, 1983, and

WHEREAS, this climatic condition causes extensive flooding and extreme high water throughout all of the State of Louisiana's natural watershed system, and

WHEREAS, fur bearing populations are managed on an annual basis through trapping programs, and

WHEREAS, the unusual climatic conditions prohibited and delayed many trapping programs, and

WHEREAS, fur technicians of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries have determined that excessive annual populations presently exist in several coastal ecosystems which would result in environmental damage to habitat conditions,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission does hereby extend the trapping season in the North Zone through February 28, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the trapping season in the following described portion of the South Zone shall be extended through March 15,

Cameron Parish:

The area south of the Little Chenier Highway east to the Mermentau River. South and west along the Mermentau River to the Creole Canal. North on the Creole Canal to Highway 27. North on Highway 27 to its junction with the Little Chenier Highway.

Terrebonne Parish:

The northern boundary line will begin at North Point on the west end of Point Au Fer Island and extend east and northeast along the shoreline of Atchafalaya Bay to the mouth of Creole Bayou. Then east along Creole Bayou and southward and eastward to the end of Bayou De Log and then eastward to the north end of Carrion Crow Lake. Then east and south along the bank of Carrion Crow Lake to Carrion Crow Bayou and then east on Carrion Crow Bayou to the Voss Canal. Then south on the Voss Canal to the junction with the Mauvais Bois Ridge and east along this ridge to the junction with Liners (Peoples) Canal. Down Liners (Peoples) Canal to Lake Decade. Then east along the north bank of Lake Decade to the Falgout Canal and eastward along the Falgout Canal to the Houma Navigation Canal. Then south of the Houma Navigation Canal to Terrebonne Bay.

A motion was made by Mr. George Gray, seconded by Mr. Wayne Ducote, and passed unanimously, to extend the rules and regulations pertaining to the public use of Rockefeller to a section of School Board land located in Vermilion Parish.

(The full text of the resolution is here made a part of the record)

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission has prohibited all commercial wildlife activities on Rockefeller Refuge as stipulated in the original "Deed of Donation" from the Rockefeller Foundation and accepted by the State in 1920, Act. 71, and

WHEREAS, the "Deed of Donation" was very specific in providing for protection on the refuge for fish and wildlife, and in particular prohibiting hunting, shooting, trapping, fishing, taking or destroying in any manner any of the fish and wildlife existing thereon, and

WHEREAS, exceptions in the "Deed" provide for trapping as a wildlife management technique and for recreational fishing provided that those activities do not interfere with the fish and wildlife inhabiting the Refuge, and

WHEREAS, the State of Louisiana declared the inland waters of Rockefeller Refuge as part of the Refuge and has prohibited any trespassing upon such waters except as provided above, and

WHEREAS, Section 16, Township 16 South, Range 2 West, owned by the Vermilion Parish School Board lays entirely within the boundary of Rockefeller Refuge,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission does hereby close Section 16, Township 16 South, Range 2 West to the commercial harvest of all fish and wildlife; provided, however that trapping of fur bearing animals will be allowed to the extent permitted on Rockefeller Refuge, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that all rules and regulations pertaining to the public use of the Rockefeller Wildlife Refuge shall apply to this above described School Board Section located in Vermilion Parish.

* * * *

There was a discussion to amend the by-laws to comply with Louisiana Statutory Law on the composition of a quorum. Don Puckett was instructed to request a written opinion from the Attorney General's Office.

A motion was made by Mr. Wayne Ducote, seconded by Mr. Jesse Knowles, and passed unanimously, to adopt a resolution of appreciation to Mr. J. C. Gilbert.

(The full text of the resolution is here made a part of the record)

WHEREAS, J. C. Gilbert served on the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission from December 11, 1976, to November 25, 1982, covering a span of just under six years, and

WHEREAS, during those years of distinguished service to this Commission and to the people of Louisiana. J. C. Gilbert served as Vice Chairman from December 18, 1979, to February 27, 1980, and as Chairman from February 27, 1980 to November 23, 1981, and

WHEREAS, he was a champion of wholesome outdoor recreation in the form of hunting and fishing, he always listened with open ear and attentive concern to trappers, shrimpers, and commercial fishermen whose livelihood was hinged to proper management and utilization of wildlife and fisheries resources, and

WHEREAS, throughout those years as Commissioner, Vice-Chairman, and later Chairman, J. C. Gilbert was a staunch supporter of the Commission's land acquisition program to greatly expand the wildlife habitat acreage owned outright by the Commission and dedicated for all time to outdoor recreation in the form of hunting, fishing, hiking, camping, birdwatching, and related outdoor pursuits, and

WHEREAS, throughout his years of service on the Commission, and particularly during his term as Chairman, he participated actively in a wide range of programs involving the Louisiana Wildlife Federation, the National Wildlife Federation, the Southeastern Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, Ducks Unlimited, the Wild Turkey Federation, and the International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, and

WHEREAS, his presence on the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission for so many years has greatly broadened the public image of this important wildlife board, and resulted in greater public appreciation and respect for the Commission and its responsibilities to the people of Louisiana,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission does this date express its deep appreciation to J. C. Gilbert for six years of dedicated service to the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, and the people of Louisiana who utilize the state's bountiful fisheries and wildlife resources for recreation or for a livelihood.

A motion was made by Mr. Charles Riggs, seconded by Mr. George Gray, and passed unanimously, to adopt a resolution of appreciation to Mr. Jesse Knowles.

(The full text of the resolution is here made part of the record)

WHEREAS, former State Senator Jesse Knowles of Lake Charles, Louisiana, was appointed to the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission on August 27, 1980, by Governor David C. Treen to serve a term on this Commission concurrent with that of Governor Treen, and

WHEREAS, after approximately 14 months of service to the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission and the people of Louisiana, on November 24, 1981, he was elected Chairman of the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, and

WHEREAS, during this year of service to the Commission and the people of Louisiana, Jesse Knowles carried out the duties and responsibilities of Chairman with distinction, dignity, and dedication to the important role that the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission plays in proper management and wise utilization of the wildlife and fisheries resources of the State of Louisiana, and

WHEREAS, during his year as Chairman, he assisted the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries and Governor David C. Treen in the delicate negotiations that led to settlement of the decade-long controversy over the fate of the Atchafalaya Basin and its priceless heritage of wildlife and fisheries resources, and

WHEREAS, during his year of service as Chairman of the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, Jesse Knowles presided over numerous public hearings on seasons and bag limits, special public briefings on prospective shrimp seasons, and other special hearings or meetings in which the Commission had a vested interest, and

WHEREAS, Jesse Knowles continues to serve on the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, and his membership on this Commission does much to enhance the public image of the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, and the role that it plays in establishing policy for the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: that the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission does this date commend Jesse Knowles for a year of outstanding leadership of this Commission, and requests that he continue to serve this Commission and the people of Louisiana with the same distinction and dedication that has marked his service in the past.

A report on the past waterfowl was presented by Mr. Chuck Smith, Waterfowl Biologist, for the Game Division. He reported that the early season was very good, but after Thanksgiving the season was poor.

Mr. Smith feels that we have good justification for getting some central flyway regulations for next season.

* * * *

A motion was made by Jesse Knowles, seconded by Mr. Charles Riggs, and passed unanimously, that the resolution concerning McNeese State University be adopted.

(The full text of the resolution
is here made part of the record)

WHEREAS, McNeese State University has been under contract with the Department of Energy since September 1980 and has been engaged in the Department of Energy's Strategic Petroleum Reserve Offshore Oceanographic/Environmental Monitoring program, and

WHEREAS, the program by McNeese State University's principal subcontractor, Odom Offshore Surveys, Inc., incorporated the same procedures employed by Texas A & M, with improved, more accurate navigational techniques and on board computerized data collection/analysis equipment, and

WHEREAS, McNeese State University proposed to establish a team of recognized experts to serve as a peer review committee whose function would be to review and ascertain the findings of all principal investigators prior to submission of said findings to DOE, and

WHEREAS, both McNeese and Odom proposed detailed parallel management programs illustrating management overview and control through the use of Project Managers, Technical Directors, and Principal Investigators, and

WHEREAS, Odom Offshore Surveys, Inc. is a well-established offshore engineering firm with considerable oceanographic and hydrographic experience, whose proposal offered many significant improvements to the proposed monitoring plan, and

WHEREAS, McNeese proposed a detailed contractor/subcontractor relationship which clearly provided for both administrative and technical control over the subcontractor, and

WHEREAS, McNeese's proposed implementation plan detailed the scheduling and coordination of field sampling activities, the period of performance, the integration of the previous data base, the preparation and submission of deliverables, and the calendar of meetings, and

WHEREAS, all key personnel from McNeese have been functioning in these roles for approximately three years and all were approved by DOE for work on the current contract,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: by the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission that it is incomprehensible to this Louisiana Commission that DOE could have selected McNeese as its monitoring contractor on a sole source basis for three years for the West Hackberry project, and then declare that McNeese is totally incapable of managing and performing the same type of work under a new proposal, one from which McNeese has been eliminated as a bidder on the Department of Energy's Strategic Petroleum Reserve proposal for Offshore Oceanographic/ Environmental Monitoring, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: by the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission that this Commission does commend and support the concern of United States Senator J. Bennett Johnston who deplores that a qualified Louisiana University be eliminated from bidding on contractual work that it has been performing in a competent manner that has earned the respect of Louisiana commercial and sport fishermen, and all environmental groups concerned with the discharge of brine from the West Hackberry project into the Gulf of Mexico, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: that this Commission does call upon United States Senator J. Bennett Johnston to call upon the Department of Energy for a detailed explanation for this obvious misrepresentation of services that have been performed for the Department of Energy in a competent, honorable and efficient manner by McNeese State University.

* * * *

Mr. Charles Riggs discussed the possibility of revising the license fee structure, due to the present financial status of the State.

Mr. James Farrelly assigned the Wildlife & Fisheries General Committee to study the proposed fee structure.

* * * *

There was a complaint by a deer hunter that all the laws were not printed in the hunting brochure. Joe Herring and Ray Montet explained it was not feasible to do this. Mr. Montet also stated that a new law book was being compiled and would be available to the public in a few months.

Mr. Gray recommended that the law on transportation and tagging requirements for deer meat be included in the hunting pamphlet.

* * * *

Mr. Farrelly moved that the meeting be adjourned.

Minutes transcribed by
Linda Gregson